TJIC Alert

Thomas Jefferson Information Center • U. S. Embassy •1201 Roxas Boulevard, Manila Tel.: 301-2470 • Fax: 301-2469 • E-mail: <u>mnltjic@state.gov</u> U.S. Embassy Website: <u>http://manila.usembassy.gov/</u>

February 2011

The *TJIC Alert* is a publication of the Thomas Jefferson Information Center, which is designed to provide you with current information about issues, debates, and commentaries in the United States. It is intended for individuals and is non-transferable.

Internet users may access the full text of some titles directly from the Internet. The Internet address (URL) of the websites is indicated in the citation when available.

For inquiries please contact us at the address or phone number above and ask for "Alert Service."

The TJIC is open Mondays through Fridays, except on American and Philippine holidays, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. by appointment only.

GOVERNANCE

1. Global Governance 2025

Atlantic Council September 20, 2010 82 p.

Full Text: http://bit.ly/90jWAh

The report analyzes the gap between current international governance institutions, organizations and norms and the demands for global governance likely to be posed by long-term strategic challenges over the next 15 years. The report is the product of research and analysis by the NIC and EUISS following a series of international dialogues co-organized by the Atlantic Council, TPN, and other partner organizations in Beijing, Tokyo, Dubai, New Delhi, Pretoria, Sao Paulo & Brasilia, Moscow, and Paris.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

2. Corruption Perceptions Index 2010

Transparency International October 26, 2010 Full Text: http://www.transparency.org/policy_research/surveys_indices/cpi/2010/in_detail

Transparency International (TI) defines corruption as the abuse of entrusted power for private gain. This definition encompasses corrupt practices in both the public and private sectors. The Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) ranks countries according to the perception of corruption in the public sector. The CPI is an aggregate indicator that combines different sources of information about corruption, making it possible to compare countries.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

3. Covering Corruption: The Difficulties of Trying To Make a Difference

Rosemary Armao 42 p.

Center for Media Assistance and National Endowment for Democracy July 21, 2010

Full Text: http://bit.ly/9rBAmT

The idea that a free press is linked to better, more honest government is accepted as a given, largely without direct evidence. Yet only recently have news organizations begun asking whether what they are doing is making any difference. The report examines the impact of reporting about corruption on the incidence of corruption, asking whether and how media has an effect in bringing about reform and better governance.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

4. Obama Viewed As Doing Better Than GOP Leaders In Explaining Vision

Pew Research Center for the People & the Press September 27, 2010

Full Text: http://bit.ly/dpRndE

With just over a month to go before the midterm elections, the public by a wide margin says Barack Obama has done a better job than Republican congressional leaders in explaining his plans and vision for the country. Half (50%) of the public says Obama has done a better job, compared with just 28% who say GOP leaders have done better in laying out their plans and vision, according to the latest poll. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

5. New Member Pictorial Directory: 112th Congress

Committee on House Administration November 2010 52 p.

Full Text: http://www.gpoaccess.gov/pictorial/112th/pdf/fulldoc.pdf

This is the directory of new members of the Congress.

6. New Congress: How Foreign Policy Shifts

James M. Lindsay

Council on Foreign Relations November 3, 2010

Full Text: http://www.cfr.org/publication/23297/new congress.html

The electoral tide that brought Republicans into control of the U.S. House could frustrate the Obama administration's efforts on arms control and potentially encourage them on trade, says James Lindsay. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

7. Intelligence Issues for Congress

Richard A. Best, Jr. 29 p.

Congressional Research Service October 14, 2010

Full Text: http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/150208.pdf

To address the challenges facing the U.S. intelligence community in the 21st century, congressional and executive branch initiatives have sought to improve coordination among the different agencies and to encourage better analysis. In December 2004, the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act (P.L. 108-458) was signed, providing for a Director of National Intelligence (DNI) with substantial authorities to manage the national intelligence effort. The legislation also established a separate Director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

8. The Rise of Juristocracy

James Grant p. 16-22 Wilson Quarterly Spring 2010

Currently available online, under the title *The Scourge of Juristocracy*, at http://www.wilsonguarterly.com/article.cfm?AID=1566&AT=0

The American political institution most widely replicated around the world is its "most undemocratic one," the judiciary, according to the author, who traces the evolution of modern judicial activism into a "juristocracy" -- where constitutional reforms take power away from elected officials, and transfer it to unelected judges, "an expression of the old belief that democracy must be tempered by aristocracy." He compares the U.S. system to parliamentary systems such as Britain's, where protection of human rights still rests largely on a democratically elected parliament, rather than judicial review. While the author writes the judiciary has an important guardian role, to hold the executive branch to account, he sides with Thomas Jefferson and other believers in judicial restraint.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

9. Hard Work in the Public Sector

Hye Jin Rho 2 p.
Center for Economic and Policy Research October 2010

Full Text: http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/older-workers-public-2010-10.pdf

Recent economic turmoil has led state and local governments to seek new paths to offset budget shortfalls. Among other things, one widely discussed policy option is state employee pension reforms. These proposals seek to cut pension benefits, and, moreover, to increase the retirement age. State and local government employees generally are able to access full retirement benefits at a lower age than most other American workers, for whom the current age for eligibility for full Social Security benefits is 66 (and which will rise to 67 by 2027). Policymakers, however, must not overlook the fact that a large share of public sector workers are in physically strenuous jobs, says the author. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

10. A \$400 Billion Opportunity: 10 Strategies to Cut the Fat Out of Federal Procurement

Raj Sharma 31 p.

Center for American Progress November 16, 2010

Full Text: http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/11/pdf/federal_procurement.pdf

Raj Sharma outlines 10 ways the federal government can save \$400 billion over 10 years by changing the way it buys goods and services.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

11. Making Politics More Personal

Bruce Britt p.14-19
Deliver August 2010
Full Text available at: http://www.delivermagazine.com/2010/10/making-politics-more-personal/

One of the most impressive results of the 2008 presidential elections was the success in which Barack Obama's campaign used an array of contemporary marketing techniques; pundits coined the phrase "Brand Obama" to describe his fundraising prowess. One of these was a targeted mail campaign through the U.S. Postal Service. After he became President in January 2009, his organization, Organizing for America (OFA), sent e-mails to supporters asking them to sign a symbolic "Declaration of Support" for President Obama's health care bill, with a free, personalized thank-you certificate to supporters of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act 2010, who donated \$50 to OFA. 350,000

supporters responded to the free certificate, while an additional 6,000 responded to the \$50 donation/framed certificate offer. What these techniques proved was that brands that do the best job of maximizing their messages are smart enough to continue the relationship with direct mail and that marketing continues to play an ever-growing role in the evolution of both political figures and the messages they promote. Direct mail will now be one of the major ways that politicians will be able to communicate with voters.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

12. Competition in Federal Contracting: An Overview of the Legal Requirements

Kate M. Manuel 39 p

Congressional Research Service August 20, 2009

Full Text: http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R40516_20090820.pdf

The report describes the legal requirements pertaining to competition that presently apply to federal procurement contracts.

13. State Governments At Risk: A Call To Secure Citizen Data And Inspire Public Trust

Deloitte October 2010 40 p.

Full Text: http://www.nascio.org/publications/documents/Deloitte-

NASCIOCybersecurityStudy2010.PDF

People put a lot of trust in state governments to collect, maintain and protect the appropriate information necessary to execute their programs, protect individual rights, and ensure public safety. The volume of that information expands at an ever-increasing pace, and maintenance and protection of that information, particularly where it involves Personally Identifiable Information (PII) and Personal Health Information (PHI), becomes more and more challenging. The study finds that states need to do more to secure citizen data and maintain public trust.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

14. State Government Redesign Efforts 2009 and 2010.

Lauren Stewart 26 p.

National Governors Association October 18, 2010

Full Text: http://www.nga.org/Files/pdf/1010STATEGOVTREDESIGN.PDF

As the nation stands poised to elect one of the largest classes of new governors, the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) has conducted an analysis of state actions to streamline and downsize government to meet the new economic reality facing states. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

15. Ensuring State And Municipal Solvency

Milken Institute and 36 p.

Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation October 2010

Full Text: http://www.kauffman.org/uploadedfiles/ensuring-state-and-municipal-solvency.pdf

Cutting back on services and increasing taxes won't be enough to stabilize state and municipal finances, even when the economy fully recovers. According to the report, it's going to require real paradigm shifts: a fundamental restructuring of budgets and the entire budgeting process, sustainable revenue generation, new efficiencies and federal/state partnerships.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

REQUEST FORM TJIC Alert Issue: February 2011

- TJIC reserves the right to refuse a request if, in its judgment, fulfillment of the request would involve violation of U.S. Copyright Law. (Title 19, U.S. Code)
- Print copies of the reports, documents or articles with available Internet addresses will be provided on a case to case basis.
- The articles requested are mailed two days after receipt of request. Please contact us if you have not received the articles requested after a month.
- Please make corrections to the address label below, complete the information requested at the bottom, and sign and return this form by mail, fax or email to the address below.

PRINTED NAME:		
ADDRESS:		
SIGNATURE:		DATE:
TEL:	FAX:	E-MAIL:

Please note that this service is intended solely for the recipient's use and is non-transferable.



Thomas Jefferson Information Center Embassy of the United States of America 1201 Roxas Boulevard Manila, Philippines Fax: (632) 301-2469 Tel: (632) 301-2470

TJIC Alert Service

To: